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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Rosalie A. Centeno
Rosalie A. Centeno, Secretary

In the Application of Andreas Lucht et al

Ser.No.: Not Yet Known (Based on PCT/EP03/05545 filed May 27, 2003 and German
priority documents DE 102 24 236.4 filed May 29, 2002)

For: High Performance Tightener

Filed on: November 24, 2004

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Commissioner of Patents

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Légat Staff
International Division

LETTER

Sir:

After numerous conversations with the Applications Branch, it has been determined that there is no record of receipt of the above-identified National Stage PCT application. However it has been confirmed that the Express Mail envelope containing this application did reach the United States Patent and Trademark Office. A copy of our express mail label is attached.

The entire file has been searched and the filing postcard and the filing receipt have not been found. Neither item has been received by our office.

Therefore, we are also enclosing a further copy of the application papers as well as a Declaration under 1.68, and a copy of our postcard, along with the express mail label copy. Since the check (check # 15999) submitted with the original application has not cleared our bank, we are also enclosing a substitute check in the amount due at the time of filing of the application.

We respectfully request that the application be entered as filed on November 24, 2004, a

serial number assigned, and a filing receipt issued recognizing the original filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert W. Becker".

Robert W. Becker, Reg. No. 26,255
for Applicant(s)

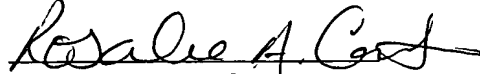
ROBERT W. BECKER & ASSOCIATES
707 Highway 66 East, Suite B
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RWB:rac

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Rosalie A. Centeno, Secretary

In the Application of Andreas Lucht et al

Ser.No.: Not Yet Known (Based on PCT/EP03/05545 filed May 27, 2003 and DE 102 24 236.4 filed May 29, 2002)

Filed: November 24, 2004

For: SAFETY BELT RETRACTOR HAVING A PRETENSIONING DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria VA


DECLARATION UNDER 1.68

Sir:

I, Rosalie A. Centeno, Secretary to Robert W. Becker, Attorney of Record in the above-mentioned patent application, do hereby declare that on November 24, 2004, I deposited with the U.S. Postal Service an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. I further declare that said envelope contained the original Patent Application papers for the above-referenced U.S. Patent Application (national stage pct application), along with the Express Mail Certificate (Express Mail Label No. EV 368 068 891 US).

A copy of this express label is attached herewith. I also declare that our return postcard (which was submitted with the application) has also not been received by our office.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful, false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application, the patent which issues thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.


Rosalie A. Centeno

Date: January 27, 2005

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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231 DATE: 11-24-04

Sir: Please acknowledge receipt of the accompanying by placing your receiving stamp hereon and mailing.

Respectfully, ROBERT W. BECKER & ASSOCIATES
707 Highway 66 E, Ste B, Tijeras NM 87059

S.N./Docket/Mark AFK - 16214 - WO - US

2pp transmittal Hr/15 pp
spec, 4 pp claims (16) 1 pp
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